There is no project under private public partnership through National Culture Fund in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

Survey of sites of historical and cultural importance

1512. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a USA based organization has conducted a survey in the world under the drive of 'World Monument Watch' and listed some Indian sites of historical and cultural importance in the Most Endangered Sites in the World;

(b) the number of monuments/sites of historical and cultural heritage declared Most Endangered Sites from Himachal Pradesh;

(c) whether Government has taken any serious note on this survey and formulated any conservation plan to save these sites of Indian cultural heritage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) The World Monument watch, a US based private organization conducts to such surveys from time to time. They have included 5 Indian sites in the list of Most Endangered Sites 2008, none of which has been notified under Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 as of national importance; nor is any of these sites located in Himachal Pradesh.

Protection of monuments

1513. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of monuments presently protected by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and State Governments State-wise;

(b) whether there are thousands of monuments as on date which are neither under the control of ASI nor the State Governments which have not been protected so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide protection to such monuments?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) There are 3667 monuments protected by Archaeological Suvey of India (ASI). The State-wise position is given Statement— I (*See* below). Besides, there are 3573 monuments protected by State Governments. The State-wise position is at Statement—II (*See* below).

(b) There are a large number of monuments which are neither under the control of Archaeological Survey of India nor under State Governments.

(c) There is no datebase which gives details of unprotected monuments.

(d) The National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities has been launched to prepare a national database of the archaeological remains, sites, antiquities and monuments of the country.

The Central Government may declare any ancient monument or archaeological site and remains as protected under the Ancient Monuments, and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 keeping in view the importance of the site.